

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A temperature control device for (100, 100A, 100B, 100C) culturing microorganisms or cells fungi at a predetermined culturing temperature, the temperature control device comprising:

a cassette for holding a culture medium for culturing microorganisms or cells;

a heating mechanism configured to heat said cassette;

a cooling mechanism configured to cool said cassette;

a temperature-setting unit configured to set said temperature control device being capable of adopting at least approximately 27°C and 30 to 32°C as said predetermined culturing temperature by switching between those temperatures;

a heating-and-cooling control unit configured to control operations of said heating mechanism and said cooling mechanism based on a temperature set by said temperature-setting unit; and

a communication unit through which a plurality of said temperature control devices are connected to each other.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The temperature control device according to claim 1, wherein

a plurality of said temperature control devices can be connected to each other with said predetermined culturing temperatures being set independently,

a specific one (100A) of said plurality is controlled by a control device (200) when said plurality are connected to each other, and

said temperature control devices (100B, 100C) other than said specific one are controlled by said specific one.

4. (Currently Amended) The temperature control device according to claim 3, wherein

said specific one ~~(100A)~~ manages addresses of said temperature control devices ~~(100B, 100C)~~ other than said specific one, said addresses being viewed from said control device.

5. (Currently Amended) The temperature control device according to claim 1, wherein

a plurality of said temperature control devices can be connected to each other with said predetermined culturing temperatures being set independently,

data obtained in a specific one ~~(100A)~~ of said plurality is sent to a control device ~~(200)~~ when said plurality are connected to each other, and

said temperature control devices ~~(100B, 100C)~~ other than said specific one send their respective data to said specific one.

6. (Currently Amended) The temperature control device according to claim 1, wherein

a plurality of said temperature control devices can be connected to each other with said predetermined culturing temperatures being set independently, and

each of said plurality is controlled independently by a control device ~~(200)~~ when said plurality are connected to each other.

7. (Currently Amended) The temperature control device according to claim 1, wherein

a plurality of said temperature control devices can be connected to each other with said predetermined culturing temperatures being set independently, and

data obtained in each of said plurality is sent independently to a control device ~~(200)~~ when said plurality are connected to each other.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) The temperature control device (~~100, 100A, 100B, 100C~~) according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1, wherein

said temperature-setting unit is configured to set at least approximately 27°C, 30 to 32°C and 42 to 44.5°C as said predetermined culturing temperature by switching between those temperatures ~~said temperature control device being further capable of adopting 42 to 44.5°C as said culturing temperature.~~

11. (Currently Amended) The temperature control device (~~100, 100A, 100B, 100C~~) according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1 or 10, wherein

said temperature-setting unit is configured to set at least approximately 27°C, 30 to 32°C and 35 to 37°C as said predetermined culturing temperature by switching between those temperatures.

~~said temperature control device being further capable of adopting 35 to 37°C as said culturing temperature.~~

12. (Cancelled)